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1. On 29 November 1948, the anniversary of the Sovietization of Armenia, the customary celebration of which was banned by Lebanese authorities, some twelve to fifteen Armenian Communists met at the apartment of Antranik Ardashesian in Beirut to celebrate the occasion. Although more of a social gathering than a regular meeting, Communist Party matters were discussed. It was Ardashesian who, with the aid of another militant had torn down the flag of the German Consulate in Beirut some ten years ago when he was known to be a Communist. The two men were prosecuted for this act by the French authorities, and two French Communist lawyers, both deputies, came from France to defend the pair. Later, however, Ardashesian was expelled from the Party on the accusation of Trotskyist tendencies. The only other well-known person at the meeting was Setrak Abajian, who was recently released from the Ba'albek concentration camp. **Comment:** Setrak Abajian works in the Propaganda Section of the Armenian Section of the Communist Party. This is his only occupation. He receives a monthly salary of approximately 600 Lebanese pounds. (P-2.)

2. A number of speeches were made. In one of them, the speaker said that the Communists in Beirut should be ashamed of themselves for their lack of activity. "We spend all our time propagandising each other, while our comrades in China and elsewhere are showing such magnificent achievements," he said. He urged that all those present attempt to extend their propaganda activities among non-Communists.

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